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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 308504
ORIGIN AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 TRSE-00 L-03
/033 R

DRAFTED BY USDA:SCAMPBELL
APPROVED BY NEA/AFN:WSWEISLOGEL
FAS/IMD:RFITZSIMMONS
USDA:RAINWATER
NEA/AFN:TSWILKINSON
USDOC:ALAEMMERZAHL
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
USDOC, USDA
---------- 085797 /73
O R 212244Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

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RABAT FOR AGATT, USDOC FOR CAGNE

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EPAP, BBAK, TS

SUBJECT: SEED POTATOES INTO TUNISIA

REF: (A) TUNIS 8858, (B) TUNIS 8865

1. USDA PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATES ARE ISSUED BASED UPON INSPECTION EITHER AT TIME OF PACKAGING, DURING THE GROWING SEASON, OR BOTH. THESE CERTIFICATES ARE BASED ON KNOWN REQUIREMENTS OF COUNTRY TO WHICH EXPORT IS BEING SHIPPED.
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USDA FILE INFORMATION ON TUNISIAN PHYTOSANITARY REQUIREMENTS INDICATES THAT ONLY THREE POTATO PESTS WERE OF CONCERN TO TUNISIAN OFFICIALS: SYNCHYTRIUM ENDOBIOTICUM; LEPTINOTARSA DECEMLINIATA; AND PHTHORIMAEA OPERCULELLA. INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REFERENCES APPEARS TO INDICATE THAT GOT HAS IMPOSED NEW, MORE STRINGENT REQUIREMENT SINCE

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INSPECTION OF POTATOES AND SHIPMENT.

2. APART FROM PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION FOR POTATO EXPORTS, NEARLY ALL SEED POTATOES IN U.S. ARE ALSO INSPECTED AND CERTIFIED FOR INTERSTATE COMMERCE. IF SHIPMENT TO TUNISIA WAS ORIGINALLY INTENDED AS SEED POTATO EXPORT, IT CAN BE ASSUMED TO HAVE BEEN INSPECTED FOR MOST OF DISEASES IN REF B DURING THE GROWING SEASON, AT THE TIME OF HARVEST

AND AT THE TIME OF GRADING. HOWEVER, IMPOSSIBLE TO GIVE ASSURANCE OF ABSENCE OF ALL VIRUS DISEASES LISTED.

3. IF FURTHER DETAILS NECESSARY TO HEAD OFF TUNISIAN DECISION TO QUARANTINE, WE WOULD NEED TO KNOW THE STATE OF ORIGIN. ALSO REQUEST PLACE OF ISSUE AND NAME OF CERTIFYING OFFICIAL ON USDA PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE. USDA DOES NOT MAINTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT, OR CERTIFY TO, THE RELIABILITY OF ANY EXPORTER.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SEEDS, FOOD INSPECTION, POTATOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Review Media Identifier:
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